IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Boulanov, Oleg
Serial No.:	09/815,818
Filed:	23 March 2001
Title:	Remote Server Object Architecture for Speech Recognition
Group Art Unit:	2655
Examiner:	Lewis, Michael A.
Atty. Docket No.:	057622-0042 / ELZK-003

AFFIDAVIT UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

I, the undersigned, Oleg Boulanov, as the sole inventor of the subject application (filed on 23 March 2001 and having a priority date of 24 March 2000) and all claim contained therein, do hereby declare that:

1. The subject application, as filed, included thirty-eight claims, all of which are currently pending.

2. Of the thirty-eight pending claims, three claims (i.e., claims 1, 14 and 24) are independent claims and thirty-five claims (i.e., claims 2-13, 15-23 and 25-38) are dependant claims.

3. Independent claim 1 is as follows:

> A speech recognition system comprising: a line of service including: a first server object coupled to a telephone network for receiving a voice data message from said telephone network; a second server object having a first connection to said first server object for receiving said voice data message from said first server object and converting said voice data message to a phonetic data message; a third server object having a second connection to said second server object for receiving said phonetic data message from said second server object and converting said phonetic data message to a syntactic data message; and a fourth server object having a third connection to said third server object for receiving said syntactic data message from said third server object and converting said syntactic data message to a semantic data message, which is representative of said voice data message; wherein said first, second and third connections are formed over a first computer network.

4. Independent claim 14 is as follows:

A method of processing speech comprising: (A) receiving, at a first server object, a voice data message from a telephone network; (B)transmitting said voice data message over a first computer network to a second server object; (C) converting said voice data message to a phonetic data message in said second server object; (D) transmitting said phonetic data message from said second server object to a third server object over said first computer network; (E) converting said phonetic data message to a syntactic data message in said third server object; (F) transmitting said syntactic data message from said third server object to a fourth server object over said first computer network; and (G) converting said syntactic data message to a semantic data message representative of said voice data message in said fourth server object.

5. Independent claim 24 is as follows:

A speech recognition system comprising: a line of service including: a voice server object coupled to a telephone network for receiving a voice data message from said telephone network; a speech recognition server having a connection to said voice server object for receiving said voice data message from said voice server object and converting said voice data message to a phonetic data message and converting said phonetic data message to a syntactic data message; and a task server object having a connection to said speech recognition server for receiving said syntactic data message from said speech recognition server object and converting said syntactic data message to a semantic data message, which is representative of said voice data message; wherein said connections between said voice server object, said speech recognition server and said task server object are formed over a first computer network.

6. In the office action of 16 March 2004, all three independent claims were rejected, under 35 USC §102(e), based solely on the teachings of Haszto (i.e., U.S. Patent No.: 6,192,338, hereinafter Haszto).

7. The remaining dependent claims were all rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), based on the combination of the teachings of Haszto and one or more of: Motoyama (U.S. Patent Application No.: 20020152292); Struger et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 5,297,257); Sanu et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 5,974,409); Salesky et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 6,343,313); and Edmonds (U.S. Patent No.: 6,230,190).

8. The Haszto reference has a filing date of 17 June 1999 and a priority date of 12 August 1997.

9. The Haszto reference does not claim each and every element of independent claim 1, independent claim 14, or independent claim 24 of the subject application.

10. The subject matter of claims 1, 14 and 24 of the subject application were all conceived and reduction to practice was diligently pursued prior to the 12 August 1997 priority date of the Haszto reference, and such diligent pursuit of reduction to practice continued, without lapse, to the filing date of the subject application.

11. Prior to 12 August 1997, I personally authored source code that discloses and embodies the subject matter of independent claims 1, 14 and 24 of the subject application. A true copy of the source code is attached as Exhibit A, except that the copy has been redacted to remove all references to dates and to partial obscure the code itself (for confidentiality reasons). Additionally, this source code was repeatedly and consistently submitted to Source Safe prior to 12 August 1997, concurrently generating a Submission Log that substantiates such repeated and consistent submissions. A true copy of this Submission Log is attached hereto as Exhibit B, except that the copy has been redacted to remove all references to dates.

12. The partially-redacted copy of the source code (i.e., Exhibit A) and the partially-redacted copy of the Submission Log (i.e., Exhibit B) evidence the conception of the subject matter of claims 1, 14 and 24 of the subject application prior to the 12 August 1997 priority date of Haszto.

13. Reduction to practice was diligently and consistently pursued by repeatedly executing the source code on one or more computer systems, prior to 12 August 1997, in an effort to sufficiently refine the implementation of the subject matter of claims 1, 14 and 24 and to allow introduction into the marketplace. This effort involved internal development and experimentation by me or by people under my control on behalf of Assignee The Eliza Corporation.

14. Being hereby warned that willful false statements are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting Letters Patent issuing thereon, I state that all statements made of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

9/16/2004
Date

Oleg Boulanov